



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Golden Gate National
Recreation Area

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Golden Gate NRA Fire Management



Fuel reduction in Marinview subdivision



Fuel reduction on GGNRA land adjacent to subdivision

Fire Protection Enhanced for Marinview Subdivision Near Golden Gate NRA

Purpose of Treatment

The Marinview subdivision, comprised of 259 high value homes, is located at the southern end of Tamalpais Valley, along the border of Golden Gate National Recreation Area. Approximately 25 acres of vegetation was treated in strategic locations within Marinview and on adjacent GGNRA land during the 2002, 2003 and 2004 field seasons. These treatments were done to reduce the wildland fire hazard created by dense vegetation surrounding the subdivision, including a eucalyptus grove immediately downslope of structures. The treatments were designed to create defensible space around structures; to re-establish a shaded fuel break on County Open Space lands within the subdivision; to replace flammable non-native eucalyptus with a more fire resistant native plant community; and to improve firefighter access and public evacuation during a wildfire.

Treatment Activities

During the fall and winter of 2002-2003, 1.5 acres of eucalyptus was removed from GGNRA land, southwest of the Marinview subdivision. Also in 2002-2003, fuel was removed from 21 acres of county-owned land within the subdivision in a wildland-urban interface, community assistance project. During 2003-2004, 3 additional acres of eucalyptus was removed from GGNRA land .

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The eucalyptus treatment on GGNRA land involved removing all stages of the grove, from new shoots to mature trees up to 40 inches in diameter. The work was carried out by a contractor under the direction of the GGNRA Fire Management Officer and staff. The project successfully removed 4.5 acres within a 15 acre grove. The eucalyptus treated in 2002-2003 was cut into haul truck lengths, cabled to the top of the slope, and loaded onto trucks for removal. The eucalyptus treated in 2003-2004 was cut and stacked into 40 piles which were later burned in February 2005 by GGNRA Fire Mangement staff.

The treatment within the Marinview subdivision involved removing eucalyptus and pine saplings, weeds, and dead and down material which was piled and later burned by Southern Marin Fire Protection District. This community assistance project was a cooperative effort between Marin County Fire Department, Southern Marin Fire Protection District, Tamalpais Community Services District, FIRESafe MARIN, Marin County Open Space District, and the National Park Service.

Community Involvement

Planning for fuel removal near Marinview was a collaboration between Southern Marin Fire Protection District, Marin County Fire Department, and the National Park Service. Outreach was conducted with the subdivision residents through the homeowners' association. Fuel reduction to enhance fire protection for Marinview was identified as a high priority in the Marin County Fire Plan, which ranks this area as a very high risk zone.

For More Information:

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